

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

PENGE URBAN DISTRICT

IN THE

COUNTY OF KENT,

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1906.



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TOWN HALL,

ANERLEY ROAD,

ANERLEY, S.E.

To the Chairman and Members of the Penge Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the honour to present to you my report for the year ending December 31st, 1906.

The principal features of the Vital Statistics for the year are as follows :—

Total Population of all ages, Census of 1901	...	...	...	...	...	22,468
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census of 1901	...	...	...	...	...	3,811
Average number of Persons per House, Census of 1901	...	...	...	...	...	5·89
Population, estimated middle of 1906	...					23,678
Area of District in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	770
Density of Population per Acre	...	...	...	...	...	30·75
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	17·6
Corrected Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	11·4
Zymotic Death Rate (including Influenza)					·63	
,, ,, ,, (excluding Influenza)					·33	
Infantile Mortality Rate (under one year)				125·0		
Under 5 years. Death Rate per cent.	...				23·6	

POPULATION.

The Census was taken on the 31st of March, 1901, and showed that the population of the district was 22,468, an increase of 2,093 since 1891. This population was accommodated in 3,811 inhabited houses, which gives an average of 5·89 persons per house. I estimate that the population in the middle of the year would be 23,678, and it is upon these figures that my statistics are based. The area of the district is 770 acres and the density of population 30·75 per acre.

BIRTH RATE.

The births during the year numbered 416, of which 205 were males and 211 females. This gives a birth rate of 17·6 per 1,000, and compares with 19·5 for 1905, 20·8 for 1904, 20·7 for 1903, 20·8 for 1902, and 20·3 for 1901.

Like most other districts, our birth-rate is a decreasing one, and I am quite unable to suggest a remedy, which, indeed, hardly comes within the province of a Sanitary Department.

DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths registered in the Urban District of Penge during the twelve months was 234, and to these have to be added 39 which occurred in Public Institutions outside the district. The death rate for the year worked out on these figures is 9·8 per 1,000 for deaths registered in the district, but, with the number of deaths in Public Institutions added, the corrected death rate for the year is 11·4 per 1,000. Of these deaths 52 were under 1 year of age (12 were under 1 month), giving an Infantile Mortality rate of 125·0 per 1,000 of births registered.

The death rate of 11·4 compares with 12·8 for 1905, 13·4 for 1904, 10·9 for 1903, 12·5 for 1902, and 13·4 for 1901, the only five years for which I am able to give returns.

The Infantile Mortality of 125·00 compares with 126·34 for 1905, 128·36 for 1904, 117·64 in 1903, 140·75 in 1902, and 131·29 in 1901.

Sixty-four of the deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age, this being a mortality of 23·6 per cent. of the total number of deaths registered.

I am once again able to report a reduction in the death-rate, the figures of 11·4 per 1,000 are, with the exception of 10·9 in 1903, the lowest recorded during my years of office. Thus we can again congratulate ourselves that the Sanitary work that has been carried out so thoroughly during late years is beginning to show a satisfactory result, and I have every confidence that the average of improvement will continue. A death-rate is, of course, subject to influences of a general character, and these we cannot help, but by remedying every sanitary defect that comes under our notice, by keeping up the general standard of sanitary efficiency by house-to-house inspection, by improving the road surfaces and the general drainage of the roads themselves, and by a watchful attention to the courts and passages, many of which have been recently paved or covered with tar macadam, we shall gradually but surely influence the general health and the consequent death-rate.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The Infantile Mortality of 125 also certainly shows a slight reduction on the two previous years, but is very high, and I am extremely anxious that some steps should be taken to ensure its improvement. During the year

I presented the following report to the Sanitary Committee :—

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary and Lighting Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The question of our Infantile Mortality requires your notice and consideration.

The following is our death rate, per 1,000 births registered, for the past five years.

1901	...	...	...	...	131·9
1902	...	...	...	...	140·75
1903	...	...	...	...	117·64
1904	...	...	...	...	128·36
1905	...	...	...	...	126·36

The Infantile death rates for England and Wales during 1905 were as follows :—

England and Wales	...	...	128
141 Smaller Towns	...	...	132
76 Great Towns	...	...	140
England and Wales (less the 217 Towns)	...	...	113
		per 1,000 Births.	

The Infantile Mortality varies as follows in the following Towns :—

Norwich	...	...	...	174
Burnley	...	...	...	173
Sheffield	...	...	...	167
Birmingham	...	...	...	155
West Ham	...	...	...	154
Surbiton	...	...	...	56·07
Guildford	...	...	...	65·0
Bromley	...	...	...	67·0
Tunbridge Wells	...	...	...	74·0

Aldershot	...	...	...	71·0
Reigate	...	...	...	75·0

And in our immediate district.

Lewisham	...	...	...	92
Croydon	...	...	...	96
Beckenham	...	...	...	102
Lambeth	...	...	...	115
Camberwell	...	...	...	124

PENGE ... 126·3.

It will be seen that our record is above the average, and that there is certainly room for improvement.

I have made enquiries from 32 other Sanitary Authorities and have received much information which will be of value to us in the future. Wherever any practical work is being done, Lady Health Visitors are appointed to visit the homes of all newly-born children, to inspect the surroundings, sanitary and otherwise, and to give information to the mothers on the feeding, clothing and general treatment of young children, and leaving at the homes leaflets, giving all necessary information. In the case of infectious or epidemic diseases, their help is valuable in distributing information as to steps necessary to treat the individual cases and stay the spread of the disease.

Unless we can have some help from a Lady Health Visitor, I cannot see how we can derive any practical value from the issue of leaflets alone, but at the same time I do not consider that we have enough work here for the whole time of a Lady Visitor and I am not prepared to recommend that one be appointed, but there is a plan which I think might prove feasible and could be carried out at a small expense, that is by co-operation with the Penge and Anerley District Nursing Association. It might be possible if the Council could subscribe a definite amount to the funds, that a second Nurse could be appointed, and in selecting such a Nurse our special needs should be remembered, and one be appointed who had

had special experience in children's work, and of course an agreement would be necessary to lay down exactly the duties a Nurse would owe to the Council and to the Nursing Association. If this idea meets with the approbation of the Committee, I would suggest that I be empowered to meet the Committee of the Nursing Association and talk the matter over with them and report to you further.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

(Signed) HENRY J. PRANGLEY.

After discussion, I was instructed to approach the District Nursing Association and talk the matter over informally with them. I did so, and after some discussion the Association decided that they were prepared to consider any proposal. However, on bringing the matter again before the Sanitary Committee, it was decided to take no further steps until after the Election of the New Council. I trust it may soon be convenient to again take this subject into consideration and to evolve some means which should promise a reduction of our Infantile Mortality rate.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

During the year 15 deaths have been referred to the following Zymotic diseases :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Influenza	...	...	...	...	7
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	1
					—

This gives a Zymotic death rate of '63 per 1,000, but if the seven cases of influenza are omitted, it only amounts to '33 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act of 1889 was 108, which compares with 80 in 1905, 79 in 1904, 69 in 1903, and 133 in 1902.

Disease.	Treated at Home.	Removed to Hospital.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	6	15	21
Erysipelas ...	11	—	11
Scarlet Fever ...	19	51	70
Enteric Fever...	1	—	1
Membranous Croup	1	1	2
Puerperal Fever	3	—	3
—	—	—	—
	41	67	108
—	—	—	—

This works out at 4·5 notifications per 1,000 of the inhabitants.

SMALL-POX.

No work has arisen under this heading during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 70 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, as against 41, 47, 30 and 74, in the previous four years ; none of them died. I am again glad to note that 51 of these 70 cases were removed to hospital, a step which I am

certain is for the good of the individual removed, as it is for friends and neighbours of the diseased person. The type of the disease has been very mild.

No less than 28 of these cases were traced to one child, a boy who, while away at the seaside for his holiday, had a slight attack of illness, but not enough to lay him up. On his return he attended school. Later on one of his sisters becoming ill developed Scarlet Fever, and the brother who had been previously ill at the seaside was found by the doctor attending the family to be also peeling from Scarlet Fever.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Diphtheria gives 21 notifications as against 23, 18, 25 and 17 the previous four years. Of this number 15 were removed to hospital.

The notifications continue about the average and the mortality numbers two.

There were two notifications of Membranous Croup, as against one during the previous four years (in 1905). One was removed to hospital. Both cases were fatal.

The deaths from these diseases during the preceding three years were 2, 6 and 3.

TYPHOID FEVER.

One case only of Typhoid Fever was notified, as against 5, 4, 11 and 2, the previous four years; the patient died. This case on investigation was proved to have arisen outside the district.

We continue the daily disinfection of all house drains while a case of Typhoid is under treatment.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

A case of this disease occurred during March, 1906, and it is interesting and reassuring to notice that no spread occurred. It was an infant who was sent to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children from this District, and died there with all the clinical features and pathological and bacteriological characteristics of this disease. Stringent disinfection and cleansing of the premises, which were in a dirty condition, was carried out, and nothing more was heard of this disease.

EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

There were 47 specimens of serum and blood submitted to the Clinical Research Association during the year. The results were as follows :—

	Bacillus found.	Bacillus not found.	Total.
Diphtheria secretion	21	... 39	... 60
	Reaction obtained.	Reaction not obtained.	Total.
Typhoid (blood)...	1	... 6	... 7

Anti-Diphtheritic Serum was supplied for the treatment of eight cases.

General satisfaction has been expressed at this new departure of the Council, and I have no doubt that the money has been well expended. Applications for the examination of other pathological products (such as the Sputa of Phthisis) have reached me, but these have been refused, as power was not given for such examinations.

DISINFECTION.

During the early part of the year all our articles for Disinfection were, as before, taken to Croydon, but at the opening of the New Depot we were able on June 12th

to commence the use of our new Disinfector. This apparatus, which is called the "Improved Washington Lyons," has proved a great success, and we have had no difficulty in the working, and naturally, having our disinfecting appliances close at home we have been able to carry out more speedily the necessary work. In all cases articles for disinfection are removed in a covered iron van early in the morning, disinfected and returned the same day.

The amount of disinfection still increases considerably : 2,238 articles against 2,063 in 1905, and 935 in 1904, and 110 rooms as against 83 and 57. Eight requests have been received to disinfect after fatal cases of Phthisis and Cancer, and I would repeat that we are anxious to let everyone know that such disinfection will be carried out without any cost. I can report, and I do so with pleasure, that there seems to be a growing feeling amongst all classes of the desirability of disinfecting in the various necessary diseases.

In addition to the ordinary work special disinfection with Formic Sulphugators was carried out at the Infants' departments of St. John's School, Maple Road, and Melvin Road Schools.

INQUESTS.

There have been 12 Inquests during the year, as follows :—

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Natural Causes	2	7	9
Accidental causes	2	1	3
Suicides	...	—	—
	—	—	—
	4	8	12
	—	—	—

Since the opening of the New Depôt all inquests have been held there in the room specially provided for that purpose, and general satisfaction has been expressed at the accommodation provided, and also with the perfect surroundings attending the Mortuary and *post-mortem* Rooms.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

Owing to a child attending school while suffering from Scarlet Fever, which he had contracted while at the seaside, several other cases occurred, and it was found necessary to close the Infants' Class Room E. at Melvin Road Schools for 14 days, from September 19th to October 2nd inclusive, and Infants' Class Room D for 7 days, from October 8th to October 14th inclusive.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

During the year 322 houses have been inspected under this heading and is being continually carried on. The records of each inspection are kept in a special register, which will be of value for future reference. A large proportion of the smaller property has been inspected, and, in the case of the poorest property, the inspections have been repeated several times during the year.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

The Common Lodging Houses are the same as last year numbering 7 (of which 2 belong to the Council), the Houses let in Lodgings amount to 22 (of which 6 belong to the Council). All are situated in Arpley Road. They have been frequently inspected by day and night, and no case of overcrowding was discovered that could be dealt with. I would again point out that the Common Lodging Houses are maintained at a higher standard of cleanliness than the Houses let in Lodgings.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Workshops registered number 95 the same as last year. Bakehouses and all workshops, work places and home workers' premises have been regularly inspected, and we have experienced no difficulty in getting all necessary requirements carried out without having recourse to summary proceedings, but although all places where out-workers are likely to be employed have been again circularised to send in the half-yearly list of such out-workers as provided for in the Factory and Workshops Act of 1901, the response has been very meagre, as shown by the tables at the end of the report, and I cannot help feeling that there must be many more out-workers employed in the district than these lists contain.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

No alteration has taken place during the year in the number of Dairies (11), Cowsheds (4), and Slaughter-houses (3) registered. Regular inspections of these have been made and the premises kept up to the requirements of the Order.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

The following properties have been purchased under the above Act :—

Thicket Wood Chambers, consisting of 28 tenements. These have been put into perfect order and the road leading to them is being made up with tar macadam.

35 to 49 (inclusive), Arpley Road ; 64 to 74 (inclusive), Arpley Road. A loan was obtained to put these houses into thorough repair, and all the necessary work has now been completed.

WATER SUPPLY.

The District is served by the Metropolitan Water Board, and south of the railway the supply is supposed to be constant, whilst on the north it is only intermittent, or the pressure is so reduced that the houses in the higher parts of the District are without water. I would again urge that every endeavour should be made to ensure a constant and plentiful supply over the whole District.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

The rainfall is registered at the Penge Recreation Ground, and the following table shows the result thus obtained and compared with the rainfall at Greenwich.

RAINFALL.

Recorded at PENGE Recreation Ground.				Recorded at GREENWICH.			
Week ending Saturday				Week ending Saturday			
Jan. 6	...	...	1·03	Jan. 6	...	...	0·95
13	...	...	0·96	13	...	...	1·20
20	...	...	1·00	20	...	...	1·06
27	...	...	0·37	27	...	...	0·49
Feb. 3	...	...	0·16	Feb. 3	...	...	0·10
10	...	...	0·37	10	...	...	0·38
17	...	...	1·06	17	...	...	0·92
24	...	...	0·21	24	...	...	0·27
Mar. 3	...	...	0·10	Mar. 3	...	...	0·17
10	...	...	0·36	10	...	...	0·35
17	...	...	0·17	17	...	...	0·29
24	...	...	0·35	24	...	...	0·32
31	...	...	0·09	31	...	...	0·14
Apr. 7	...	...	0·00	Apr. 7	...	...	0·00
14	...	...	0·03	14	...	...	0·03
21	...	...	0·10	21	...	...	0·05
28	...	...	0·37	28	...	...	0·43
May 5	...	...	0·07	May 5	...	...	0·26
12	...	...	0·04	12	...	...	0·05
19	...	...	0·10	19	...	...	0·17

RAINFALL (*continued*).

Recorded at PENGE Recreation Ground.				Recorded at GREENWICH.			
Week ending Saturday				Week ending Saturday			
May 26	...	...	0·99	May 26	...	...	1·08
June 2	...	...	0·50	June 2	...	...	0·19
9	...	...	0·00	9	...	...	0·00
16	...	...	0·18	16	...	...	0·30
23	...	...	0·28	23	...	...	0·01
30	...	...	1·78	30	...	...	2·46
July 7	...	...	0·00	July 7	...	...	0·00
14	...	...	0·00	14	...	...	0·01
21	...	...	0·23	21	...	...	0·19
28	...	...	0·71	28	...	...	0·15
Aug. 4	...	...	0·70	Aug. 4	...	...	0·86
11	...	...	0·05	11	...	...	0·01
18	...	...	0·36	18	...	...	0·33
25	...	...	0·22	25	...	...	0·26
Sept. 1	...	...	0·00	Sept. 1	...	...	0·00
8	...	...	1·02	8	...	...	0·85
15	...	...	0·60	15	...	...	0·74
22	...	...	0·40	22	...	...	0·38
29	...	...	0·01	29	...	...	0·00
Oct. 6	...	...	0·81	Oct. 6	...	...	0·69
13	...	...	0·64	13	...	...	0·63
20	...	...	0·22	20	...	...	0·21
27	...	...	0·06	27	...	...	0·07
Nov. 3	...	...	1·60	Nov. 3	...	...	1·59
10	...	...	2·43	10	...	...	2·62
17	...	...	0·62	17	...	...	0·90
24	...	...	0·38	24	...	...	0·38
Dec. 1	...	...	0·05	Dec. 1	...	...	0·09
8	...	...	0·28	8	...	...	0·29
15	...	...	0·44	15	...	...	0·40
22	...	...	0·13	22	...	...	0·50
29	...	...	0·53	29	...	...	0·68
TOTAL	...	23·16		TOTAL	...	24·50	

A Sunshine Recorder has been fitted up and soon we shall be able to compare the number of hours of sunshine here and elsewhere.

At the end of the Report will be found the Tables relating to the Vital Statistics of the District for the last ten years.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. PRANGLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

PENGE URBAN DISTRICT

IN THE

COUNTY OF KENT

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1906.

TOWN HALL,

ANERLEY ROAD,

ANERLEY, S.E.

To the Chairman and Members of the Penge Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1906.

One hundred and forty-seven premises have been provided with entirely new drains ; 9,191 feet of glazed stoneware pipes with water-tight joints were laid on cement concrete ; 98 inspection chambers have been constructed ; 147 water-closets, 270 gullies, and 87 soil-pipes fixed. This has involved upwards of 1,800 inspections.

The work in connection with infectious diseases has been above the average, and a large increase in the amount of disinfection was carried out.

Every house where a case of infectious disease occurred was inspected and the drains tested with smoke.

The House-to-house inspection is still being carried on. Every house drain is now tested with the smoke test,

a special smoke machine being used for this purpose. I should like to emphasize the fact that although a defect may not be discovered by this test, it by no means indicates that the drain is perfect; but one may generally take it, that where smoke does not escape out of the drain, sewer gas will not, for, like the smoke, it will follow the line of the least resistance.

The only positive and sure way to find out whether a drain is perfectly water-tight is by the water test. Every new drain is thus tested, but many think this too drastic for old ones. It is, therefore, our practice to test existing drains with either the smoke or volatile test.

Details of the work accomplished and nuisances abated are as follows :—

Number of houses, premises, &c., cleansed repaired, whitewashed, &c.	275
Roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes, &c., repaired	60

HOUSE DRAINS—

Repaired or cleansed	51
Ventilated	48
Stoneware syphon gullies provided ...	270
Houses provided with new drains ...	147
Inspection chambers constructed ...	98
Interceptors fixed	46
Aggregate length of 4 in., 6 in., and 9 in., glazed stoneware pipes laid	9191 ft.
Sink and bath waste pipes renewed or repaired	61
Wire guards fixed on ventilating shafts	66

WATER-CLOSETS—

Lighted and ventilated	31
Repaired, &c.	30
Additional provided	2

New water-closet basins and traps ...	147
Soil pipes and ventilation shafts reconstructed	87
Ditto, ditto repaired	30
Flushing apparatus renewed or repaired...	137

WATER SUPPLY—

Water supply to houses re-instated ...	14
Cisterns cleansed, repaired or covered ...	74

MISCELLANEOUS—

Galvanized iron dust bins provided ...	60
Overcrowding in rooms abated	7
Yards and forecourts to houses paved or amended	130
Removal of accumulations of dung, stagnant water, animal or other refuse ...	32
Receptacles for dung erected or improved	7
Animals removed, being improperly kept	8
Smoke nuisances abated...	3
Other defects remedied	102

DISINFECTION.

I am glad to be able to report that since the 12th June, all disinfection of bedding, &c., has been carried out in our own "steam disinfecter" at the Depot in Croydon Road. A large amount of time has been saved. Taking only into consideration the removal of the articles to be disinfected, there is an average gain of three hours in each case on this alone. Prior to the above-mentioned date the disinfecting was done by the Croydon Authorities at Waddon. They certainly have been most obliging in doing what they could in this matter, and I realise our obligation to them, but it is beyond doubt a greater convenience to have a disinfecter of our own.

The work of disinfection still grows. 110 rooms were fumigated as against 83, and 150 beds as against 125 last year. The total number of articles disinfected in 1904 was 935, in 1905 the number was 2,063, and for this year it amounted to 2,238.

In March last a house and the articles therein were thoroughly disinfected after a case of "Epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis" (spotted fever).

The Infants' Department of St. John's Schools, Maple Road, and of Melvin Road Schools were disinfected with "Formic sulphugators," owing to cases of infectious diseases occurring amongst the scholars.

Eight requests have been received to disinfect after fatal cases of Phthisis and Cancer, which were duly attended to; and one disinfection after a fatal case of Bronchitis, &c., the body having decomposed very quickly.

Several beds, etc., have been destroyed at the request of the owners.

The following list shows the number of rooms fumigated and of beds and other articles disinfected during the year.

Number of rooms fumigated	...	...	110
„ „ beds disinfected	...	...	150
„ „ blankets „	...	...	200
„ „ pillows „	...	...	313
„ „ sheets „	...	...	113
„ „ miscellaneous articles	...	1,352	
Total	2,238		

NOTIFICATIONS TO SCHOOLS.

During the year 89 notifications have been sent to the head teachers of the various schools, informing them of cases of infectious disease that have occurred in the homes of children attending school, and prohibiting attendance from the infected houses for a certain period.

St. Paul's Schools, Hadlow Place ...	5
St. John's Schools, Maple Road and Beckenham Road ...	... ... 10
Melvin Road Schools...	... ... 27
Oakfield Road Schools	... ... 8
Other Schools...	... ... 9
Sunday Schools	... ... 30
	<hr/> —
	89
	<hr/> —

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS.

It should be well known that there is an arrangement with the Librarian, whereby he is informed of all premises in the District where a case of infectious disease has been notified. If a borrower resides at the house, steps are at once taken to have the books disinfected, and no further books are lent to that borrower until the house in which he resides is free from infection. Borrowers may be thus assured that every care and precaution is taken before the books go into circulation again.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

The House-to-house inspection is made so as to comply with the order of the Local Government Board, which states :—" He shall, by inspection of the district, both *systematically* at certain periods and at intervals as occasion may require, keep himself informed in respect of the nuisances existing therein that require abatement."

The principal defects discovered were 85 dirty and dilapidated premises, 20 leaky roofs, 51 defective flushing apparatus, 20 insufficient ashpits, 86 yards and forecourts repaved, 70 defective water closets, and in 64 cases the drains were so defective as to require entire renewal. This entailed 1,410 re-inspections and a large amount of clerical work.

	No. of Houses inspected during the Year.		Defects discovered.
Arpley Road ...	25	...	22
Crampton Road...	21	...	14
Grove Villas and			
Thicket Grove	13	...	13
Hawthorn Grove	7	...	7
Heath Grove ...	8	...	8
Kingswood Road	47	...	41
Maple Road ...	9	...	7
Parish Lane ...	50	...	35
Railway Cottages,			
Penge Station			
(L.B. & S.C. Ry.)	3	...	2
Ridsdale Road ...	49	...	40
St. Hugh's Road	12	...	6
Vineleigh Road...	78	...	40
	—		—
	322	...	235
	—		—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of common lodging houses remains as last year, viz., seven in Arpley Road. Owing to the fact that the By-laws regulating these are more stringent than those regulating "houses let in lodgings," the common lodging houses are kept in a more cleanly condition, and I am sure will compare very favourably with similar registered premises in other districts.

The Council are the owners of two of these houses.

The landlords control many of the furnished rooms, which they work in conjunction with the common lodging houses.

No case of overcrowding was found to exist during the past year.

Landlord.	No. of Houses.	Registered	
		No. of Lodgers.	
Buckingham, J. G.	... 3	... 35	
Dunbar, Alexander	... 2	... 26	
Stitchman, Mrs. C.	... 2	... 19	
	—	—	—
	7	80	
	—	—	—

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There are 22 houses in Arpley Road registered as "Houses let in Lodgings." These have been regularly inspected both by day and night.

The Council are the owners of six of the premises ; and these have been thoroughly repaired and cleansed, so that, at the time of writing, they are certainly a model for the owners of the other houses to copy.

No serious case of overcrowding was discovered during the year, one or two technical breaches of the By-laws occurred, but not of sufficient importance to warrant summary proceedings being instituted.

Landlord.	No. of Houses.		
Buckingham, J. G.	...	...	3
Stitchman, Mrs. C.	...	...	9
Dunbar, Alexander	...	...	3
Osborne, George	...	...	1
Osborne, James	...	...	3
Marshall, F. F....	...	...	1
Howard, J.	...	...	1
Plumb, R.	...	...	1
	—	—	—
	22		
	—	—	—

TRADES INSPECTIONS.

Under this heading are included bakehouses, slaughter-houses, cow-sheds and dairies.

There are 23 bakehouses, seven of these being underground, for which certificates were granted in 1903. All the bakehouses have been cleansed twice during the year in accordance with the Factory and Workshop Act.

The number of slaughter-houses is the same as in the previous year, namely three; the cleansing took place in March, June, September and December as provided for in the By-laws.

Four persons are registered as cow-keepers and 21 as purveyors of milk. The lime-washing of the cowsheds has been carried out twice during the year in accordance with the regulations.

All these premises have been regularly inspected. A great improvement has been made in the sanitary condition of a small farm. The foul drainage from the piggeries and cowshed simply soaked into the ground around these buildings and gradually percolated into a ditch. Complaints were received of the evil smell from the foul saturated wood and ground upon which the piggeries were erected. These piggeries were pulled down and new ones erected on another site, with Portland cement floors. Proper drains were laid from these and a cowshed to the Council's sewer.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The work under the Food and Drugs Acts is mainly carried out by the Inspector appointed by the Kent County Council. The samples that are taken by us are supplementary only, and taken at times when the Inspector, who resides at Dartford and has a large District, is not at hand. The samples have been generally obtained

on Sundays, or from the milk trains delivering at Penge and Anerley Stations (L.B. & S.C.). Sixteen samples of milk have thus been taken. All of these the Analyst has reported "genuine," but in two cases he made comment, viz.: No. 6 "of very poor quality," and No. 19 "Slightly below the limit for non-fatty solids."

UNSOOUND FOOD.

The practice of tradesmen bringing for my inspection suspicious articles of food still continues. In this way many trunks and boxes of fish, etc., have been destroyed, and included fresh and dried haddocks, cod, cod's roe, Botany Bay prawns, Australian rabbits, American corned beef, and bananas.

Inspections are periodically made of shops and stalls on Saturday nights. Although nothing has been found to warrant seizure, yet the fact that inspections are made no doubt has a deterrent effect on any who would otherwise be tempted to expose for sale any food that is unfit for human consumption.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are ninety-five workshops on the register. Four hundred and ninety-three visits have been made to these premises. Seventy-five notices have been served and, besides these, many verbal notices were given to remedy some slight defects.

In the table relating to the work done under the Factory and Workshop Acts will be found particulars of the various trades and of the nuisances abated.

The out-workers lists are not such a success in this District as I think they should be, for I cannot help thinking that there must be more than five out-workers in the whole of the District.

Circulars calling attention to the requirements of the Act have been sent to all likely employers in the District, but with little result.

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Three new licences, one temporary licence, and seven renewal licences for the sale of petroleum have been granted, viz. :—

Messrs. Spicer & Orford...	...	50	galls. of petrol
W. Verinder,	250	galls. of petrol,	5
E. Searle & Co.	...	5	" "
A. Olby	...	10	" "
C. Paffard	...	150	" petrol
Messrs. Chambers & Co.	...	250	" benzoline
G. Turner	...	20	" petrol
J. L. Collins	...	80	" "
F. L. Brewster	...	12	" "
J. Honey	...	100	" "
Crystal Palace Company	(temporary licence).		

Six samples of petroleum were purchased from shops in different parts of the district, and tested as to the flash-point, *i.e.*, the temperature at which the spirit or oil gives off inflammable vapour. All the samples were above the minimum (73 degrees Fahrenheit) prescribed by the statute.

GAME DEALERS' LICENCES.

Five Game Dealers' Licences have been granted and the premises of such licensees inspected, viz. : —

Messrs. Blundell & Co.,	142, Beckenham Road.
Messrs. Carter & Co.,	117, Anerley Road.
Messrs. J. Woods & Sons,	100, Anerley Road.
Messrs. Hatton Bros.,	37, Anerley Road.
Eastcombe Stores,	108, Anerley Road.

DRAINAGE WORK EXECUTED BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

Under Section 41 Public Health Acts, 1875—90.

The following premises have been re-drained under this section :—

		Cost of Work.		
		£	s.	d.
Nos. 57 and 59, Arpley Road	...	24	12	6
23 to 32, Trenholme Road	...	46	7	6
21 to 23, Laurel Grove	...	29	16	0
12, 13, 14, Selby Road	...	62	7	1
1 to 7, Lansdown Place, work done by owners.				

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

Although a large amount of work has been carried out, yet there has been no need to have recourse to proceedings before the Magistrates.

The table referring to this work enumerates under the various headings what was accomplished during the year. This work has entailed 7,179 inspections, the writing of 600 letters, serving of 536 intimation notices and 314 statutory notices ; we have also dealt with about 750 communications. Although it is practically impossible to tabulate all the work that is done, yet these are the principal items.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Cases of infectious disease ...	...	108
Inspections through complaints received ...	...	388
House to House Inspection...	...	322
Houses let in Lodgings }	...	654
Common Lodging Houses}	...	
Trades Inspections (including bake-houses, cowsheds, slaughter-houses, etc.)	...	678

Factories and Workshops (excluding inspections included in previous items)	252
Re-inspection of works in hand ...	4,777
Total number of inspections ...	7,179

SANITARY INSPECTORS' CONGRESS.

The honour of being appointed as your delegate to this Congress held at Blackpool from the 12th to the 17th September, was much appreciated. A special report was presented in October, so that there is no need to more than mention this fact and again thank the Council, as well as to testify to the usefulness of these Congresses.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given by the officers of the Council in the working of this Department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED J. WILLETT.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORK-PLACES AND HOME-WORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of Inspections.		Written Notices.
Factories	72	...	6
(Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops and Work-places ...	408	...	68
(Including Workshop Laundries)			
Homeworkers' Premises ...	13	...	1
	493		75

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.		Number of Defects	
	Found.	Remedied	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>			
Want of cleanliness ...	... 78	... 78	
Want of ventilation ...	—	...	—
Overcrowding ...	1	...	1
Want of drainage of floors ...	3	...	3
Defective drains ...	4	...	4
Other nuisances ...	7	...	7
<i>Sanitary accommodations—</i>			
Insufficient... ...	2	...	2
Unsuitable or defective ...	7	...	7
Not separate for sexes ...	2	...	2
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>			
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses (S. 101)	—	...	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (S.S. 97 to 100) ...	—	...	—
Failure as regards lists of out-workers (S. 107) ...	4	...	4
Giving out work to be done in premises which are unwholesome (S. 108) ...	—	...	—
infected (S. 110)...	—	...	—
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or small-pox (S. 109) ...	—	...	—
Other offences ...	1	...	1
	—	—	—
	109		109
	—	—	—

3.—HOME WORK.

Outworkers' Lists (Sec. 107).

Nature of Work—Wearing Apparel—Making, etc.

	Number of Lists. Outworkers.
Lists received from employers (twice in the year)	4 6
*Addresses of outworkers :—	
Received from other Councils 8	
Forwarded to other Councils 3	
Number of inspections of out- workers' premises 13	
Outwork in unwholesome premises (S. 108) Nil.	
Outwork in infected premises (Secs. 109, 110) Nil.	

*NOTE.—The addresses received refer only to FIVE outworkers.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

The trades or works carried on in such workshops are as follows :—

Workshops on Register at the end of the Year.	Number.
Bake-houses 23	
Boot making 6	
Bottling 1	
Carpentering 4	
Cycle making... 4	
Dress making... 12	
Harness making 1	
Laundry work 9	
Mantle making 1	
Metal working 3	

Workshops on Register at the end of the Year.				Number
Millinery	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	5
Packing	...	...	...	1
Scale making	...	...	...	1
Smithy	...	...	...	3
Tailoring	...	...	...	5
Tie making	...	...	...	1
Upholstering	...	...	...	5
Wheel making	...	...	..	4
				—
Total number of Workshops on Register	...	...	..	95
				—

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Class.	Number.
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	6
(Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 5))	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	1
Other	1

Underground Bake-houses (S. 101) :—

Certificates granted during the year ...	...	—
In use at the end of the year ...	...	7

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of District during 1906 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Net Deaths at All Ages Belonging to the District.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Deaths in Non-residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	
		Number.	Rate *	Number registered.	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
1.	2	3	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1896	—	414	—	—	—	238	—	—	—	—	—
1897	—	500	—	—	—	237	—	—	—	—	—
1898	—	439	—	—	—	277	—	—	—	—	—
1899	—	465	—	—	—	289	—	—	—	—	—
1900	—	481	—	—	—	256	—	—	—	—	—
1901	22,468	457	20·3	60	131·29	271	12·0	—	—	32	303
1902	22,822	476	20·8	67	14·075	250	10·9	—	—	37	287
1903	22,965	476	20·7	56	117·64	214	9·31	—	—	37	251
1904	23,206	483	20·8	62	128·36	254	10·9	—	—	57	311
1905	23,440	459	19·5	58	126·36	254	10·8	2	1	47	301
Averages for years 1896-1905	—	465	—	—	—	254	—	—	—	—	—
1906	23,678	416	17·6	52	125·0	234	9·8	7	2	39	271
											11·4

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in column 12 are the number in column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in column 10 and the addition of the number in column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" taken into account for the purpose of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made are given in the following table.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	Total population at all ages	22,468 3,811 5.89
	Number of inhabited houses	of Censuses at 1901
	Average number of persons per house	
770			

TABLE II.

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among several localities in the District.
Brooklyn Institute.		
1. Workhouse Infirmary, Croydon.		
2. Borough Hospital, Croydon		
3. Croydon Borough Isolation Hospital.		
4. Small-Pox Hospital, Cheam		

The Union Workhouse is not within the District.

TABLE III.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT,							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	Deaths Registered.	At Ages—Years.					
			Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	21	2	—	5	11	3
Membranous Croup	2	2	—	2	—	—
Erysipelas	11	—	—	—	2	1
Scarlet Fever	70	—	—	15	46	7
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1
Relapsing Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	3	2	—	—	1	2
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—
 Totals	108	7	—	22	59	13
						14	—	67

Isolation Hospitals { Croydon Isolation Hospital.
Croydon, Wimbledon and Penge Joint Small-pox Hospital, Cheam.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS'" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.						Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District. (8)
	All ages. (1)	Under 1 year. (2)	1 and under 5. (3)	5 and under 15. (4)	15 and under 25. (5)	25 and upwards. (6)	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever...	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	4	—	2	2	—	—
Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever Enteric	1	—	—	1	—
Other continued	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	7	—	1	—	4
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhea	18	17	1	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—
Other Septic Diseases	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)...	37	—	—	1	8	27	1
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	9	3	3	2	—	1
Cancer (Malignant Disease)...	...	29	—	—	—	16	13
Bronchitis	7	—	—	2	5
Pneumonia	9	3	2	3	1
Pleurisy	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	3	1	—	1	—	1	—
Alcoholism	...	9	—	—	—	6	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Venereal Diseases	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	11	11	—	—	—
Diseases and Accident of Parturition	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart Diseases	27	—	3	1	10
Accidents	2	1	—	—	1
Suicides	—	—	—	—	—
All other causes	93	15	1	4	19
All causes	271	52	12	13	10
						88	96
							7

NOTES.—(a) The deaths of residents occurring beyond the limits of the district are included in this Table, and deaths of non-residents occurring in the district are excluded from columns 1—7. See note on Table I. as to meaning of "Residents" and "Non-Residents."

(b) Under the heading of "Diarrhea" in Table IV., are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhoea, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhoea, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhoea, Choleraic diarrhoea, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.

In addition, and as regards deaths of children *under one year of age*, under the heading "Diarrhea" in column 3 (Table IV.) are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhoeal diseases" in Table V.

Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV., are to be included only deaths *over one year of age* registered as due to Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, under the specific term "Diarrhea." Deaths from diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

Under the heading of "Cancer" and "Puerperal Fever" are included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	Total Deaths under One Year.														
		1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.		
All Causes—																
Certified ...	... 11	—	—	1	12	6	1	5	6	7	5	1	2	3	2	52
Uncertified —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Infectious Diseases—																
Small-pox —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria; Croup —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																
Diarrhea, all forms ...	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Enteritis (not Tuberculous) ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Wasting Diseases—																
Premature Birth ...	... 8	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	11
Congenital Defects ...	... 1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth ...	... 1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Want of Breast-milk ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	6
Tuberculous Diseases—																
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculous Peritonitis; Tabes Mesenterica ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Convulsions ...	... 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Suffocation overlaying ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Causes ...	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
	11	—	—	1	12	6	1	5	6	7	5	1	2	3	2	52

Population, estimated to middle of 1906 ... 23,678

Births in the year legitimate ... 404

illegitimate ... 12

Deaths in the year legitimate infants 48

illegitimate 4

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 271.

